

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
US APPLICATION NO. 10/824,477
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q80528

REMARKS

Since this Application now should be in condition for allowance, Applicant again respectfully requests Examiner Shallenberger to acknowledge both Applicant's claim for foreign priority and receipt of the foreign priority document.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 5 (5/1) and 13 (13/9) would be **allowed** if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has effectively rewritten these claims by canceling claims 5 and 13 and adding their limitations to their respective parent claims 1 and 9, whereby **claims 1 and 9 now are allowable**. Furthermore, dependent claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are either directly or indirectly dependent on their respective parent claims 1 and 9, whereby these dependent claims also now should be **allowable**.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 103(a) and now to find the application to be in condition for **allowance**. However, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the Application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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